# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3541
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
NATIONAL DREDGING POLICY
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to formulate a national policy on dredging;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the dredging projects undertaken/likely to be undertaken by the Government for the last three years and current year, port-wise?

## Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) to (c): The Ministry after reviewing the existing policy has issued the revised dredging policy guidelines to be followed by all Major Ports w.e.f. 1.4.2007 for a period of three years. The revised policy guidelines are as follows:-

(i) All Major Ports shall invite open competitive bids for dredging works and Indian companies owning Indian flag dredgers, including Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) shall have the right of first refusal if the rate is within 10% of the lowest valid offer. This would apply to both maintenance and capital dredging works with sole exception of the maintenance dredging requirement of Kolkata Port for which separate instructions shall apply.

(ii) If more than one company owning Indian flag dredger participates in the tender, the right of first refusal will go to that Indian company which has quoted the lowest rate and is within 10% of the lowest valid offer.

(iii) All Major Ports may strictly adhere to the guidelines issued by the Central Vigilance Commission from time to time for processing the tenders in a transparent manner. Ports may ensure that a prequalification criteria is fixed in advance and should not be very stringent to restrict entry of certain potential Indian bidders. The prequalification conditions should be exhaustive, yet specific. The prescribed conditions should be clearly specified in the bid documents to ensure fair competition and transparency. Detailed instructions in this regard will be issued separately.

(iv) The Government of India through Department of Shipping reserves the right to assign, in public interest, any contract for dredging work in any of the Major Ports to DCI on nomination.

(v) Guidelines issued by DG(Shipping), Mumbai from time to time in terms of the relevant provisions of Merchant Shipping Act shall be applicable.

(d): The details of the dredging projects undertaken by the various Major Ports during the last three years and the projects proposed to be undertaken during the current year is annexed.